## AMENDMENTS

**In the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A computer-assisted method of processing a drug information source, ~~the drug information source comprising at least one instance of drug rule content, each instance of drug rule content comprising at least one drug rule,~~ the method comprising:

creating a drug rule syntax comprising (a) drug rule syntax elements, each corresponding to a subset of a logical proposition, and (b) allowable logical relationships between said drug rule syntax elements;

detecting at least one instance of drug rule content from a drug information source; and

parsing drug rule elements from at least one identified instance of drug rule content into the drug rule syntax,

retaining associations described in said drug rule content between ~~those~~ drug rule elements that form a drug rule,

whereby a subset of the drug information source is processed into syntax-parsed drug rules.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein drug source information comprises at least one of: drug label information; and drug literature information.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A computer-assisted method of processing a drug information source, the drug information source comprising at least one instance of adverse event content, each instance of adverse event content comprising at least one adverse event characterization, the method comprising:

detecting at least one instance of adverse event content from a drug information source; and

parsing at least one adverse event characterization from at least one detected instance of adverse event content,

whereby a subset of the drug information source is processed into at least one parsed adverse event characterization,

and wherein the at least one adverse event characterization comprises quantitatively explicit information.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4 further comprising: validating at least one parsed adverse event characterization.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein: adverse event content comprises text content, and each adverse event characterization comprises the set of reaction names and frequency of occurrence characterization.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein: adverse event content comprises text content, and at least one adverse event characterization comprises the set of reaction names, lower limit frequency of occurrence, and higher limit frequency of occurrence.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein: adverse event content comprises table content, and at least one adverse event characterization comprises the set of reaction names, and nominal frequency of occurrence.

9. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein: adverse event content comprises table content, and at least one adverse event characterization comprises the set of reaction names, lower limit frequency of occurrence, and higher limit frequency of occurrence.

10. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein at least one instance of adverse event content comprises an implicit adverse event characterization, and the method further comprises deriving an adverse event characterization from the implicit adverse characterization.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein: the derived adverse event characterization comprises the set of reaction names, and nominal frequency of occurrence.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein: the derived adverse event characterization comprises the set of reaction names, lower limit frequency of occurrence, and higher limit frequency of occurrence.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a drug information source, ~~the drug information source characterized by metadata, comprising verbatim data, and comprising at least one instance of drug rule content, each instance of drug rule content comprising at least one drug rule,~~ the method comprising creating a drug rule syntax comprising (a) drug rule syntax elements, each corresponding to a subset of a logical proposition, and (b) allowable logical relationships between said drug rule syntax elements;

extracting metadata from the drug information source;

extracting verbatim adverse event data from the drug information source;

identifying at least one instance of drug rule content from the drug information source;

mapping terms from verbatim data to a reference source;

parsing drug rule elements from at least one identified instance of drug rule content into the drug rule syntax,

retaining associations described in said drug rule content between those drug rule elements that form a drug rule;

wherein the drug described by the drug information source is characterized by the set comprising: the syntax-parsed drug rule elements, the mapped terms, and the metadata.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein: the reference source comprises MedDRA.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein: the reference source is selectable by a user.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein: the mapping between a reference source term and the corresponding verbatim identifies the pedigree of each reference source term-verbatim pair.

17. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising: associate remaining drug information source data with the drug, wherein the drug described by the drug information source is characterized by the set comprising: the syntax-parsed drug rule elements, the mapped terms, the metadata, and the remaining drug information source data.